

**Ohio Library Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

ITEM NO.: **5.E.3**

MEETING DATE: **May 16, 2025**

SUBJECT: **Communications Report**

SUBMITTED BY: **Angie Jacobsen**

REPORT FOR INFORMATION

State Budget

The OLC issued a [press release](#) on April 2 after the Ohio House of Representatives announced its proposed biennial budget, Sub. House Bill 96. The release explained the House's proposed cuts and implications, while emphasizing the historical partnership between the state and public libraries. This release prompted extensive media coverage statewide. To date, more than 50 news articles have been published, reflecting growing public concern and reinforcing the importance of maintaining adequate funding for libraries in the final state budget.

Sample media coverage:

[Ohio House budget draft slashes library funding, risking vital services, library advocates say](#)

[Ohio House proposed state budget cuts \\$100 million in funding for public libraries](#)

[Ohio libraries worry about cuts after house budget proposal slashes funding](#)

[Libraries are vital to our communities. Don't discard Ohio's long standing bipartisan funding formula](#)

[War against libraries yet another sign Ohio just can't have nice things](#)

[Ohioans love their libraries, won't fall for GOP funding sleight-of-hand](#)

Legislative Day

Resources and advocacy tools were added to the OLC website and distributed to attendees on the day of the event. A [media advisory](#) was sent on April 7. Library Legislative Day received significant media coverage, and the event also gained traction on social media using #OhioLibraryDay. Libraries around the state also utilized the sample news release on the OLC website and received local media coverage

Sample media coverage:

[Ohio Library Day brings fight for library funding right to the Statehouse](#)

[Libraries push back on proposed funding cuts in Ohio House budget](#)

[Ohio House budget proposal would cut public library funding by more than \\$100 million over next 2 years, advocates say](#)

[Local reps push for more library funding](#)

5.E.3: Communications Report

Response to Ohio House Budget

On April 9, the OLC issued another [press release](#) expressing gratitude to library patrons for their support while highlighting how the House budget still falls short of the Governor's proposed funding for libraries.

Sample media coverage:

[Ohio House budget increases library funding but falls short of advocates' hopes](#)

[Are Ohio lawmakers cutting library funding?: What we know now](#)

[The impact of funding cuts](#)

Library Levies

A press release was sent about Ohio voters approving all 13 public library levies on the May 6th ballot. Press release and levy results: <https://members.olc.org/news/Details/ohio-voters-approve-100-of-public-library-levies-265886>

Sample media coverage:

[Ohio libraries win big Tuesday](#)

[Ohio Libraries Win Big in Tuesday Elections](#)

[Here's how Northeast Ohio library levies fared in the 2025](#)

Division/Committee Projects

- Marketing and PR Division sent an e-newsletter on April 11.
- Special Collections Division an e-newsletter on April 11.
- Children's Services Division sent its quarterly e-newsletter on April 15.
- Adult and Reference Services Division sent an e-newsletter on April 24.
- Teen Services Division hosted two virtual discussions: March 25 and May 8.
- Call for Board of Directors nominations was published in This Week, Access and the OLC website.
- Nominations for the 2025 Awards and Honors were promoted in This Week, Access, OLC website and social media.
- A Call for Programs was issued for the new Unconventional to Conventional Conference. The conference is scheduled for June 12.
- The names and libraries of new and renewed certification holders (CPL/CPLS) were listed in Access and the OLC website along with more information on the Ohio Public Library Certification program.

Website

The most popular pages on the OLC website over the past two months are:

1. Jobs
2. Ohio Library Advocates Thank Ohioans for Support
3. State Budget
4. Ohio House Budget Reduces Public Library Funding by \$100 Million
5. OLC Calendar

5.E.3: Communications Report

6. Ohio Voters Approve 100% of Public Library Levies
7. 2025 Convention and Expo
8. CPIM - Public Library Fiscal Officer Conference
9. Library Funding/PLF
10. OLC News